Criteria for allotment of disposal vehicles

431. SHRI RAMJI LAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the criteria for allotment of disposal vehicles to MPs;

(b) whether the vehicles are supplied after the inspection/verification of the vehicles by MPs;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the number of these vehicles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) The Members of Parliament (MPs) are eligible to apply, during their tenure, for allotment of a maximum number of 3 Army disposal vehicles comprising Jeeps, Jongas, Ambassador Cars (not more than one) and Motor Cycles, subject to their availability.

(b) MPs or their authorised representatives are allowed to inspect the vehicles.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Recovery of missiles from a school

432. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two ground action missiles; manufactured at an Ordinance factory at Kirkee in Pune, were found inside the premises of a school in North East Bombay, as reported in the Times of India of March 31, 1993;

(b) whether Government have made an enquiry as to how these missiles used in ground war with considerable impact were taken out of the Kirkee factory;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) what security measures have been taken to check thefts or smuggling of arms and other equipments from the Ordinance factories in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c) In the news item published in the Times of India of 31st March, 1993, the two ground action Missiles were stated to have been found inside the premises of a school in North East Bombay. As reported by the Bombay Police to the Ammunition Factory Kirkee, 2 Numbers of Bomb Mortar 2" HE were found in a corner of Chembur High School Bombay, hidden below a stack of tiles, under a tree, adjacent to the school boundary wall. These Bomb Mortars are obsolete equipment for the Army who have very small holdings of such mortars. These mortars are also held by different Para Military forces. From available details, it is not possible to ascertain or indicate the source from which these bombs may have been taken out.

(d) All possible security measures in ammunition factories and ammunition depots are taken to prevent any theft/smuggling of arms and ammunition.

Pendown strike by MES clerks

433. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD :

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 4000 clerks employed with the Military Engineering Service all over the country have resorted to indefinite pen-down strike from 26th March, 1992 to press for their long standing demands for time bound promotion of clerks and class-IV employees, implementations of cadre review report etc.; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction to their demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) The All India MES Clerical Cadre Association representing clerks and Class IV employees of the Military Engineering Service, an unrecognised Association, served a notice for Chain Hunger Strike from 15th March, 1993 to 21st March, 1993 and a pendown strike from 22nd March, 1993 to 31st March, 1993 in all the offices of MES throughout the country. Certain employees observed Chain Hunger Strike from 15th March, 1993. Employees belonging to the Association including Group 'D' numbering approximately 4,000 went on pen-down strike from 22nd March, 1993 to 31st March, 1993. The strike was mostly confined to Western and Northern Army Commands. The strike was called off on 31st March, 1993.

The main demands raised by the Association during the strike were as follows :

(i) Expeditious finalisation of clerical cadre-review proposals.

(ii) Review of posting policy of clerical personnel.

(iii) Creation of posts of Administrative Officers in Garrison Engineers' Offices.

(iv) Recognition of the Association.

(v) Speedy implementation of Career advancement of Group 'C' and 'D' employees.

Government had held discussions with the representatives of the Association, on earlier occasions, in order to find an amicable settlement of the various issues. In this regard, Government have already taken steps to implement certain demands, namely grant of in situ promotions to Group 'C' and 'D' employees, and initiated a review of present posting policy of clerical personnel.

As regards the creation of posts of Administrative Officer in Garrison Engineers' Offices, Government have not found it feasible to accept the demands, as there is already an Assistant Garrison Engineer posted in GE's Offices who is assisting the Garrison Engineering in day-to-day administration, in addition to technical work. The Association has also been suitably apprised of the position.

In regard to the recognition of the Association, certain pre-conditions laid down in the guidelines in respect of the recognition of service associations had not been complied with by the Association. The Association has been advised to fulfil the pre-conditions.

In the matter of Cadre review proposals, finalisation is awaiting identification of 10 percent posts for surrender, under the economy drive of the Government of India. The Association have since been apprised of the position.

All India Transfer Liability Conditions

434. SHRI MD. SALIM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Group 'C' posts of DGQA Organisation possess "All India Transfer Liability Condition" like that of Group 'A' and 'B' posts of the same organisation in view of provision to Article 309 of the Constitution and the Government's statement made before the C. A. T., Calcutta as reported in ATR 1989(2) CAT 124; and

(b) if not, then whether a clause relating to all India transfer liability incorporated in the offers of appointments is enforceable ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) An all India transfer|service liability clause is incorporated in the offers of appointment to all group 'C' posts of DGQA. That has been held as justified by CAT Bangalore, in their judgment dated 26 November 1991 on application No. 415|91 filed by a group 'C' employee of DGQA as an "incidence of service".